

Application No.: 10/091,903
Amendment Dated: June 4, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: March 4, 2004

MAT-8230US

Remarks/Arguments:

The Official Action has required that Figure 7 be labeled with a legend such as "PRIOR ART". Figure 7 has been appropriately designated.

The disclosure has been objected to. The disclosure has been appropriately amended. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4, 6 and 8 have been objected to. These claims have been appropriately amended. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. These claims have been appropriately amended. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. This claim has been appropriately amended. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Shibamoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,346,973). It is respectfully submitted, however, that these claims are now patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Applicants' invention, as recited by claims 1, 4 and 6, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by Shibamoto, namely:

... a dielectric layer between the backplate layer and the ... light-emitting layer.

This feature is illustrated by Figure 1 and the text which relates to that Figure. No new matter has been added.

The use of a dielectric layer between a backplate layer and a light-emitting layer is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record. Accordingly, claims 1, 4 and 6 are patentable over the art of record.

Regarding claim 8, this claim has been amended to include the feature of:

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... said pushbutton including a movable contact, said EL device is between a top of said pushbutton and said movable contact.

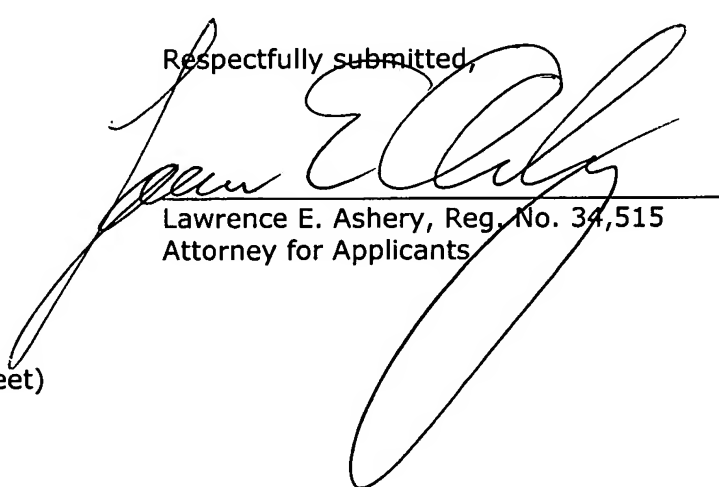
This feature is also shown by Figure 1. As this feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, claim 8 is patentable over the art of record.

The dependent claims include the features of the respective independent claims from which they depend. Accordingly, the dependent claims are also allowable over the art of record.

Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). This claim includes all the features of claim 1 from which it depends. Thus, claim 3 is also patentable over the art of record.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Attachments: Figure 7 (1 sheet)

Dated: June 4, 2004

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